

## TASK FORCE EFFORT –780CMR803.3.1--5-04-01

Amend Chapter 8, Section 803.3.1 by adding Section 803.1.1.1 that reads:

**803.1.1.1 Foam plastics – A-2 use applications:** Foam plastics shall not be permitted as an interior finish in A-2 occupancies with an occupant load of 50 or more unless the room or rooms in which the foam plastics are installed is/are equipped with an automatic sprinkler system conforming to the requirements of 780 CMR 904 and in accordance with the following restrictions:

(a) Cellular or foamed plastics shall be permitted as interior wall and ceiling finish where subjected to fire tests that substantiate their combustibility characteristics for the use intended under actual fire conditions using large-scale tests performed on a finished foamed plastic assembly of the maximum thickness intended for use that is related to the actual end-use configuration. NFPA 286 *Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Evaluating Contribution of Wall and Ceiling Interior Finish to Room Fire Growth*, 2000 Edition is considered to be an acceptable large-scale test.

(b) Cellular or foamed plastic shall be permitted for trim (chair rails, crown molding and similar uses) not in excess of 10 percent of the wall and ceiling area, provided that it is not less than 20 lbs/ft<sup>3</sup> (320kg/m<sup>3</sup>) in density, is limited to ½ inch (13mm) in thickness and 4 inches (100 mm) in width, and complies with the requirements for Class I ~~A~~ or Class II ~~B~~ interior wall and ceiling finish as described in 780 CMR, Chapter 8 *Massachusetts State Building Code*, including the smoke rating.

**BBRS Staff notes that Note “I” tied to Table 803.4 requires modification to read:**

Note i. In Use Groups A-1, A-3, A-4, I-2 and I-3, Class II interior wall finish material shall be permitted as wainscoting extending not more than 48 inches (1219 mm) above the floor in corridors providing exit access. For A-2 Use Groups, Class I or Class I cellular or foamed plastics satisfying the requirements of Section 803.1.1.1 (b) are required.

**BBRS Staff also notes that reconciliation is required relative to Class I and I materials referenced in the State Building Code and DRAFT language proposed 527 CMR 11.00 referencing Class A and B materials.**

DEFENSE:

Plastic interior finishes are argued and tragically demonstrated to present a risk in an unsprinklered A-2 USE